

FEB 26 1949

CLASSIFICATION

~~SECRET/CONTROL/US OFFICIALS ONLY~~ **CONFIDENTIAL**COUNTRY Soviet Zone of GermanyREPORT NO.

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TOPIC COTTBUS Airfield

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DATE PREPARED 2 December 1949

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. 5 October 1949

About 80 single-engine and twin-engine aircraft with double rudder assembly were parked at the COTTBUS (N 52/A 57) airfield. * There was little flying. The boundary lights were on at night. All visible billets were occupied by a total of about 800 Soviet Air Force troops, most of them wearing war decorations. The soldiers were between 22 and 28 years old.

2. Groups of up to eight Soviet Air Force soldiers have often been observed arriving in COTTBUS on the regular express train from the direction of FRANKFURT/Oder (O 53/V 63). **

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4. 21 and 22 October 1949

Single-engine aircraft were no longer observed at the field. Thirty-eight twin-engine planes were parked in four rows in front of the hangars. Description: In-line engine, ellipsoidal wings, span about 40 feet, double rudder assembly with rounded rudders, glazed cockpit detached, metal turret, retractable landing gear, Soviet star in white circle and blue square on rudder assembly above. There was little flying. Many soldiers were observed by the parked aircraft.

5. The arrival of soldiers has not been observed recently.

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6. Seven medium antiaircraft guns of about 80-mm caliber and three heavy antiaircraft machine guns were in well-camouflaged emplacements on the southwestern edge of the landing field. Their crews, who were quartered in earth-bunkers, wore red-bordered, black epaulets and artillery insignia. The emplacements were connected by telephone with the former Bunker Bastone on the eastern edge of field.

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- * a. The single-engine aircraft were probably stationed there temporarily. According to concurrent statements [redacted] the field has only been occupied by F2-2 bombers since late-September 1949. According to previous information, a component bomber regiment of the III Air Corps is stationed there.

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- ** b. The arrival of soldiers from the direction of FRANKFURT/Oder was reported for the first time and may be connected with the change in the occupation of the field.

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